

Tuesdays with Tammy Nevada Libraries Forum
from
Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records
10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday
May 26th, 2020

Notes

Attending: Tammy Westergard, Sulin Jones, Norma Fowler, Bruce Douglass, Betts Markle, Liz Moore, NSLAPR; Kelli Anderson, Emergency Management Programs Manager, NV Division of Emergency Management; Kim Diehm, Boulder City; Diane Baker, Carson City; Carol Lloyd, Churchill County; Veronica Hallam, Douglas County; Kassie Antonucci, Elko-Lander-Eureka; Marcie Smedley, Joy Gunn, Henderson; Elizabeth Robinson, Humboldt County; Ron Heezen, Danielle Milam, LVCCLD; Amy Geddes, Lyon County; Courtney Oberhansli, Mineral County; Forrest Lewis, Shelly Alexander, North Las Vegas; Amy Bruno, Shanna Gibbons, Susan Wonderly, Pahrump; Kathy Brinkerhoff, Pershing County; Jeff Scott, Joan Dalusung, Washoe County; Cyndi O, NV Library CoOp; Anna Brueher, Lyon Co. School District; Holly Esposito, Washoe Co. School District; Caprice Roberson, CSN; Eric Walsh, Great Basin College; Jeanne Price, UNLV Law Library/SCLL; Maggie Farrell, UNLV; Ron Belbin, WNC; Shanna Pritchett, NV Supreme Court Law Library; Nancy Schmidt, SCLL;



WHAT PEOPLE ARE THINKING RIGHT NOW



Strengths:

- Libraries are finding solutions to operate during the current crisis.
- Libraries are working with state and local government to lessen the impact of COVID19.
- Libraries are working with one another and through library organizations to develop phased-in reopenings to the public



Struggles:

- Libraries are searching for the best solutions for closing digital divide.
- Keeping staff and public safe is major priority.
- Trying to anticipate future problems and how to respond to them.
- Still searching for the best way to leverage our resources and continuing to talk to municipalities regarding best technology.



Opportunities

- Demonstrating value of libraries by offering staff to help with tracing research.
- Development of virtual and digital service programming for the public.
- Opportunity to provide professional development for all library staff.
- Summer Reading Programming partnerships with organizations outside of the libraries.



Trends

- Professional development and continuing education instruction showing rapid growth.
- Libraries are improving their visibility and profile through digital content and services.
- Digital and virtual programming content quality improving.
- Usage of library digital content by the public continuing to increase.
- Phased-in reopening of libraries is beginning.

Tammy Westergard announced that the draft reopening guidelines document is ready for the NLA to review. It will be sent to the NLA Board through Forrest Lewis, NLA President, to be voted on by email for final approval. The document, as well as standards from the Governor for reopening, will be posted before June 1st on the Nevada State Library website (<https://nsla.nv.gov/home>).

Kelly Anderson, Emergency Management Programs Manager with the Nevada Division of Emergency Management, manages emergency funding for state, local, tribal, and non-profit organizations. COVID-19 funding from FEMA is available to help libraries recover from COVID-19 related expenses. Total expenditures over \$3,300 accrued since January 20th, 2020 for services outside of normal library operations – anything specifically related to COVID-19 that you wouldn't normally do such as overtime, cleaning, deep cleaning, PPE – may be reimbursed. Libraries who helped in manufacturing PPE supplies can be reimbursed to recover their funding. Overtime must be documented, but the documentation can be re-created after the fact with information that you know to be true. Approved expenditures will be reimbursed at 75% with a 25% match required, but the Governor has provided taskforce funding to help individual organizations and entities that are having difficulties coming up with the 25% match.

The first step in requesting reimbursement is completing a RPA-Request for Public Assistance. You will need to enter name, DUNS and EIN for your library. Assistance is provided through bulletins and a weekly GoToMeeting every Wednesday at 2:00 pm. Questions can be sent to disaster-recovery@dps.state.nv.uv and will be answered within 3-5 hours.

UPDATES:

Danielle Milam and Ron Heezen: LVCCLD opened for curbside service on May 23rd, 2020, and it is going well as patrons can place holds through various means. Staff are working in the buildings again on staggered schedules in preparation for a June 4 phased reopening. Downloadable digital materials use increased exponentially in March and April from previous years, and they recently launched an LVCCLD YouTube channel.

Tammy asked Danielle if the library is involved in any way with Hope Means Nevada, a network of nonprofit organizations. Danielle replied that United Way of Southern NV is the backbone and the efforts are going toward immediate needs such as homelessness and food.

Jeanne Price commented in chat that there is a non-profit resource available to all called Opportunity Alliance Nevada (opportunityalliancenv.org) that acts as a clearing house for financial resources, loans, grants, and whose goal is to help Nevadans affected by COVID.

Forrest Lewis: Eight North Las Vegas staff members started training today for contact tracing. The library is waiting to see how LVCCLD's curbside service goes, and after the City of North Las Vegas opens, they will revisit the it with the City Manager with the idea of possibly starting mid-June.

Marcie Smedley: Henderson staff started working back in the building 50% of the time last week. They are planning to roll out curbside on June 1 and are working on software to help with it. They will start with patrons who already had items on hold.

Kim Diehm: Boulder City also has staff back for 50% of their hours. They are working on training and will also start curbside service June 1.

Susan Wonderly: Pahrump is continuing curbside service and looking at a limited opening June 3rd - open 4 hours per day Tuesday through Saturday with the first hour reserved for at-risk patrons. Number of people in the building at a time will be limited to 25, and they will be monitoring the number. There will be no in person programming; chairs have been removed to discourage lingering; the computers have been spaced apart and will have a 20 minute limit.

Jeanne Price: The UNLV Law Library is helping students prepare for the Bar exam and has received great assistance from Facilities in preparing for reopening.

Maggie Farrell: UNLV Libraries remain closed, but we are distributing library laptops to students. Contingent on NSHE and the Governor's announcement, staff will return to work June 1st with plans to reopen Lied Library on July 6th, with access limited to UNLV personnel and students. They are preparing a public-facing reopening document and will share when complete.

Jeff Scott: Washoe County library is working on Phase 3 of their plan which includes grab and go services and drive-through services at some libraries. They have enhanced virtual services; virtual summer reading will begin June 1; and their version of Some Good News TV program will launch June 1st, 2020 and will be updated weekly. They are planning for Phase 4 where they will be fully open with safety measure in place, and in preparation, they received funding for additional automatic book sorters for the library. Jeff also mentioned that United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra is providing rental assistance and food bank.

Nancy Schmidt, SCLL: Nancy reminded everyone to email Stephanie Gibson at Nevada Humanities to request physical copies of the NVReads titles. She also observed that the Council can help facilitate a discussion regarding the future of libraries and lessons learned during the Pandemic.

Joan Dalusung, SCLL Chair: Joan stated that libraries have adapted to the crisis admirably and now is the time to look at what libraries are doing better, who libraries are reaching that they weren't before, and how tech skills have improved. We should also look at the continuation of digital services after the public returns to the libraries.

Cyndi O, Nevada CoOp: Rural Nevada libraries have the same concerns and considerations as other libraries have described. Several libraries have begun curbside service, and they are working on the catalog to show only local items for each library to lessen patron confusion.

Sulin Jones, NSLAPR: Library staff participation and use of Continuing Education programs is up. April 2019 had 8,300 hours in individual course work while April 2020 had 143,000 hours, a huge increase. Thank you for encouraging your staff to use our resources on the Continuing Education list.

Tammy Westergard: Concluded the meeting by saying the reopening guidelines will be sent to Forrest for NLA review/approval, and we will develop what's next for the future of these calls. Don't hesitate to contact us. Have a great week.